

GAGAKU

now they say she is too hot
staying within her energy field may cause
melanoma

best to learn to live alone
with this self
best to gather a work that
becomes my center

there was nothing wrong with her
except what others made of her
and we can't fault her
for this

it was her beauty
she was young
we wanted to be near her to
see her to
lean back against something
and just let our eyes
take her constantly in
this became our greatest pleasure
now they say she is too hot
her name is jupiter

-- Steve Richmond

Santa Monica CA

THE NEW PLACE

the manager wears all white
has a 52 inch color tv
and sits in the garden with her
x-alcoholic husband
and speaks of the price of
red rose potatoes.

I get a note outside my door
under a rock:
"please do not dribble garbage
down my clean steps.
Helen R., manager."

then she comes by.
and she begins on her
dancing:
a) she has a right to dance with men
the way she does.
b) she comes from the country.

c) dancing doesn't mean all that
like city men think.
d) when she is dancing I am not supposed to
watch her ass but her
eyes.
e) I ought to learn to shake a leg
then I won't be so
jealous.

the phone rings:
"Mr. Bukowski, please hold it down, we
can hear that noise all over
the place!"

I take her out and put her in my
car. the police are blocking the
driveway.
"we got a riot call," says one of the
cops. "are you the guy in
apartment 24?"
"it's a lovers' quarrel," I say.
he steps aside and we
drive out

the other night
after the race results
I am listening to something by
Vivaldi and
the phone rings:
"Mr. Bukowski, please hold it down, we
can hear that noise all over
the place!"

I walk over
turn the radio off
and sit in a
chair.

everywhere I hear the warble of
tv sets. everybody seems to be
listening to the same
program.
it contains a laugh track.
I sit and listen to the
laugh track:

"ha, ha ha ha ha,
o, ha ha ha ha"

one morning I am awakened
by the manager's husband at
7:30 a.m.
I have a 3 day
hangover --

"Mr. Bukowski, Mr. Bukowski, can I see you for a moment?"

"yes, yes, all right"

I stand in the center of the room naked. I try to get into this old bathrobe. it's purple and has golden lions crawling all about it. but something has gone wrong with the lining of the right sleeve. I can't get my arm in.

"Mr. Bukowski, Mr. Bukowski, I just want to see you a moment"

I still can't get my arm through.

the bathrobe was given to me by a friend. this guy was 7 feet tall and he died. they were going to throw the bathrobe away but I took it.

"Mr. Bukowski"

"all right"

I throw the robe on the floor and get into a t-shirt and some jeans. I open the door. there's the manager's husband, the x-alky, Al, and he's standing with a Japanese guy who is dressed in an all-suede outfit of matching brown, down to the shoes and stockings.

"Mr. Bukowski, this man says you ran into his car last night."

I follow them down the steps and we go to the parking lot. they point to a splotch of blue on the Japanese's Volks ... my car is blue.

"how do I know he didn't run into me?"

"o, no, Mr. Bukowski, you hit him"

"all right. get it fixed. give me the bill. I'll pay it."

"thank you, Mr. Bukowski," says
Al.

I grab the Japanese by his
brown shirt.

"listen, baby. I don't have a
job. I depend upon the kindness and
stupidity of the world in order to
survive. you hold that bill down,
get me?"

"all right."

I let him go, walk
back up the steps
take my clothes off and go
to sleep.

evidently I don't frighten him
too much. when he gives me the bill
3 or 4 days later
it is
\$62.95.
I pay

I don't like this
new place.

-- Charles Bukowski

Los Angeles CA

LATEST RELEASES////////////////////////////////////

Black Sparrow Press, P.O. Box 25603, Los Angeles CA 90025:
Mohammed Mrabet's Look & Move On as translated by Paul
Bowles (\$4), Fielding Dawson's The Man Who Changed Over-
Night (\$4), Charles Reznikoff's Poems 1918-1936 (\$4),
Paul Blackburn's The Journals (\$4), Robert Kelly's The
Loom (\$6), Clayton Eshleman's The Gull Wall (\$4), Carl
Rakosi's Ex Cranium, Night (\$4). ¶ Ithaca House, 108
N. Plain St., Ithaca NY 14850: Michael Waters' Fish
Light (\$3.50), Daniel Mark Fogel's A Trick of Resilience
(\$3.50). ¶ Abraxas, 2322 Rugby Row, Madison WI 53705:
Dennis Trudell's Eight Pages (75¢), Jim Stephens' Post-
humous Work (\$1.25). ¶ Morgan Press, 1819 N. Oakland
Ave., Milwaukee WI 53202: Hasheen Howoga's Howoga Shoots
Back, Joan McNerney's Crossing the River Rubicon, and
Toni Ortner Zimmerman's To An Imaginary Lover. ¶ Isthmus
Press, P.O. Box 6877, San Francisco CA 94101: Howard
Schwartz's Lilith's Cave (\$2.50), David's Astralphonic
Voices (\$2.50), James Penzi's Salt Fever (\$2), Paul Van-
gelisti's Pearl Harbor (\$2.50), and Barbara Unger's
Basement (\$2.50).